

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-07 DHA-02 ORM-02 /079 W
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FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8061
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 0738

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PROP LA US THA

SUBJECT: LAO ATTACK ALLEGED U.S. INTENTIONS TO RE-ESTABLISH MILITARY
BASES IN THAILAND

1. THE LAO INFORMATION MINISTRY DAILY BULLETIN, APRIL
18, PUBLISHED EXCERPTS OF A SPEECH BY MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS CHEF DE CABINET SOUBANH SRITHIRATH AT
THE NEW DELHI NON-ALIGNED NATIONS COORDINATING
COMMITTEE MEETING IN WHICH HE STRONGLY ATTACKED THE
UNITED STATES AND THAILAND.

2. SOUBANH SAID: "RECENTLY, THE AMERICAN PRESIDENTIAL
COMMISSION EMPHASIZED THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF U.S.
MILITARY BASES IN THAILAND WAS NOT ENVISAGED. WE HOLD
THIS DECLARATION AS A PROMISE OF PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE
AMONG THE COUNTRIES OF THIS REGION. BUT ON THE 9TH OF
JANUARY, ADMIRAL MAURICE N. WEISNER, COMMANDER IN
CHIEF OF THE U.S. ARMY OF THE PACIFIC, VISITED THAI-
LAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF REINTRODUCING U.S. FORCES;
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SOON AFTER, THE PRIME MINISTER OF THAILAND, THANIN
KRAIWICHIAN, SAID OPENLY THAT 'THE DOOR TO NEGOTIA-
TIONS FOR THE REINTRODUCTION OF AMERICAN TROOPS IN
THAILAND IS NOT YET CLOSED' AND THE MILITARY AUTHORI-
TIES OF THE AMERICAN BASE AT RAMASUN HAVE ALSO
ANNOUNCED THAT THIS BASE HAS OFFICIALLY RESUMED ACTI-
VITIES. VERY RECENTLY THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT THEM-

SELVES SAID THAT 'AT THE END OF THE MONTH OF MARCH, AMERICAN MILITARY PLANES, TWICE A MONTH, WILL CARRY WAR MATERIAL FROM THE PHILIPPINES TO THAILAND.' ALL THESE ACTS ARE CONTRARY TO THE PROMISE GIVEN BY THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION."

3. SOUBANH ALSO ATTACKED THE THAI GOVERNMENT, ACCUSING IT OF ASSITING LAO REFUGEE ACTIVITY AGAINST LAOS, AND ARGUING THAT THAILAND "NEVER ADHERED TO THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT BUT (INSTEAD) STILL HAS A HOSTILE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE MOVEMENT AND TOWARD THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES."

4. COMMENT: THIS SOUBANH UTTERANCE, INCLUDING THE TORTUOUS ARGUMENT THAT SOMETHING ALLEGED (FALSELY) TO HAVE BEEN DONE JANUARY 9 WAS CONTRARY TO A "PROMISE" MADE IN APRIL, IS TYPICAL LPDR PROPAGANDA "BOILER PLATE".
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Message Attributes

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